(c) what is the basis on which the original red-colour of Ashok Hotel was changed into white and the amount of money the Corporation had to spend at that time and in subsequent years for maintaining the white colour of the hotel; and

(d) what are the reasons for frequent changes in the colours of Ashok Hotel and whether responsibility will be fixed for the same?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) Yes Sir.

(b) The expenditure is estimated at Rs. 10.7 lakhs and is a part of normal renovation which would have been spent even to give a white coat.

(c) At the time of Non-Aligned Meet and CHOGM in 1983, substantial renovations were carried out in Ashok Hotel, New Delhi including painting of exterior facade in white colour. The cost on re-doing the exterior facade was Rs. 1.86 lakhs. In 1987 the same colour was repainted at a cost of Rs. 6.97 lakhs.

(d) In order to maintain conformity with the ambicice of hitorical public buildings at Hew Delhi, and to restore the original facade of Ashok hotel, it has been decided to revert to its original red-sand stone biscuit colours.

Waisting Lists for LPG Connections

19. DR. NARREDDY THULASI REDDY: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) what is the number of new LPG connections that are proposed to be released in the year 1991-92 in the country; and

(b) what is the number of applications in the waiting lists for new LPG connections in the country?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND): (a) 5 lakhs.

(b) Around 70 lakhs.

Oil Reserves in West Bengal and Gujarat

20. DR. NARREDDY THULASI REDDY: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to a newsitem which appeared in the Financial Express, New Delhi on the 12th August, 1991 to the effect that India is sitting on two huge oil reservoirs in West Bengal and Gujarat which can make it a crude exporting country; and

(b) if so, what are the details thereof and the reasons for not tapping the same so far?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND): (a) and Ob) Yes Sir. The news reports is speculative and not based on facts.

Shortfall in supply of coal

21. SHRI CHIMANBHAI MEHTA:
SHRI SOM PAL;
SHRIMATI MIRA DAS:
SHRI SARADA MOHANTY:

Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) what is the loss and profit position of Coal India during last 3 years;

(b) whether coal is supplied as per the requirement of power plants, cement plants and other industries;

(c) what are the reasons for shortfall in supplies;

(d) whether it is a fact that colliery managements are indulging in reckless resort to opencast mining rather than